

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claim 1 is herein amended and support is at least found on page 27, lines 17-19 of the specification. Claims 1-4 and 6-18 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 12-18 have been withdrawn by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims define patentable subject matter.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS ON FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-4 and 6-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

The Examiner maintains that the “original disclosure fails to indicate that the deformation absorber is performed ‘before any plastic working is performed in the first region’...Thus, to specify that no plastic working is performed in the first region at a specific step within the method constitutes new matter.”

Applicant herein amends claim 1 to address the Examiner’s concern, and accordingly the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection should be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS OVER PRIOR ART

Claims 1-4 and 6-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Jeglinski (4,425,777) in view of Rooney (5,144,709). Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection as set forth below.

Amended claim 1 recites:

A method of manufacturing a chamber formation plate of a liquid ejection head, including a first region adapted to be formed

with at least communicating ports passing through the chamber formation plate and recess portions adapted to be pressure generating chambers communicated with nozzles, from which liquid droplets are ejected by pressure generated in the pressure generating chambers, through the communicating ports, the method comprising steps of:

providing a metal plate and a forging die including a first forging die and a second forging die;

providing a reference part on the metal plate, the reference part securing a relative position between the first region and the forging die;

providing at least one deformation absorber, at a second region of the metal plate, between the first region and the reference part; and

performing at least two plastic working by the first forging die and the second forging die, with respect to the first region to form at least the recess portions and the communicating ports, while plastic deformation of the metal plate caused by the plastic working is absorbed by the deformation absorber,

wherein the step of providing the deformation absorber is performed before the step of performing at least the two plastic working.

Amended claim 1 recites that at least two plastic working are performed by the first forging die and the second forging die, with respect to the first region to form at least the recess portions and the communicating ports, while plastic deformation of the metal plate caused by the plastic working is absorbed by the deformation absorber. Further, amended claim 1 recites that the step of providing the deformation absorber is performed before the step of performing at least the two plastic working.

In Rooney, the circular aperture 50 is punched through the strip 42 before the dog bone shaped cutout 66 is punched through the strip 42. The circular aperture 50 corresponds to the claimed communicating port, and the dog bone shaped cutout 66 corresponds to the claimed

deformation absorber. Therefore, Rooney does not meet the requirements set forth in amendment claim 1.

In the present disclosure, the step of providing the deformation absorber is performed before the step of performing at least the two plastic working to form at least the recess portions and the communicating ports. Moreover, the communication ports are formed after the deformation absorber is formed, as particularly recited in claim 1.

As discussed above, since Rooney fails to teach or suggest the features of claim 1, claim 1 is patentable over the teachings of Rooney. Jeglinski does not compensate for the deficiencies of Rooney vis-à-vis claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 1 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the individual or combined teachings of Jeglinski and Rooney. Therefore, the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-4 and 6-11 should be withdrawn.

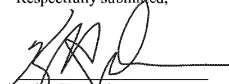
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/644,088

Attorney Docket No.: Q77070

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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